

Sharp Protest by U. S. Will Follow British Blockade

Vigorous Opposition to New Policy of England and France of Shutting Off Trade with Germany, Austria, and Turkey Will Be Voiced by Government—Condition Now Regarded More Serious Than that Brought Forth by Teuton's War Zone Decree—Britain's Latest Move Accompanied by Voting of Largest War Credits in History of the World—"Will Be No Judicial Niceties," Says Prime Minister.

AMERICAN VESSELS NOW WILL RUN DANGER OF BEING SUNK IF ATTEMPTING TO REACH COAST

The United States will emphatically protest against Great Britain's new policy of shutting off all trade with Germany, Austria, and Turkey. This government will be obliged to voice its opposition to this extraordinary infringement upon its rights as vigorously as it refused to acquiesce in Germany's threat to destroy neutral shipping.

The disastrous effects of this new policy and its extra legal character are regarded here as equalled only by the operations proposed by Germany under the recent war zone decree.

The result of this latest move by Great Britain and France so far as the United States is concerned, is this:

Facing Additional Dangers.

The Washington government feels itself confronted with all the dangers to which it was subjected under the German war zone decree, and in addition, it is now facing the certainty that its merchant vessels or any of her allies will be seized and detained. In other words, United States vessels, which under the rules and precedents of international law, have the right to proceed without molestation will run the danger of being torpedoed and sunk if they attempt to reach an English port and will be seized and detained if they carry goods suspected of being destined to Germany and her allies.

It was frankly acknowledged here last night that United States commerce, between these two alliances, is in an extremely critical situation. The situation is all the more perilous in that Great Britain's threat does not apply solely to cargoes consigned to Germany, Austria, and Turkey, but to any which are of "presumed enemy destination, ownership or origin."

This means that American shipments to neutral ports, if there is reason to suspect that the cargoes will reach Great Britain's enemies, will be detained. Not only this, but shipments from Germany, Austria, and Turkey to the United States and other neutrals will fall within the scope of the British-French decree.

Unknown Trade at Stake.

The complete trade, export and import of the United States with Germany, Austria, Hungary, and Turkey in 1914 amounted to \$200,000,000. Of course, a large part of this was lost through continental prohibitions after the war began, but trade with neighboring neutral countries showed unusual increases. All this will be lost under the operation of the British-French decree.

In addition, the new British policy is likely to have a serious effect upon the industries in the United States, notably the textile industry, which depends upon patented German products such as dyes, stuffs.

There is not the slightest doubt here.

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STEGLER AND TWO OTHERS INDICTED

**Held in \$15,000 Bail for Hearing
March 10 in Passport
Plot.**

New York, March 1.—The Federal grand jury today indicted Richard P. Stegler, Richard Madden, Gustave Cook and "persons unknown." The Federal grand jury today indicted Richard P. Stegler, Richard Madden, Gustave Cook and "persons unknown," for conspiring to defraud the United States government in procuring a passport on an application alleged to have been fraudulently signed by Stegler and Madden.

Stegler, Madden, and Cook later were arraigned before Judge Neeter and pleaded not guilty. They were held in \$15,000 bail each for trial on March 10.

Bandits Lock Up Five: Get Gold.

Williamsville, Mo., March 1.—The president, three directors, and cashier of the Williamsville Bank, one of them a woman, Mrs. C. S. Haney, were locked in the vault this afternoon by two masked robbers and \$15,000 taken.

NEW EXPOSE IN EXCISE INQUIRY DEEPENS PROBE

Senators, Receiving New and Startling Information, Delay Adjournment.

UGLY CHARGES POSSIBLE

Facts in Possession of Committee May Lead to Serious Accusations.

MONEY USED, THINKS WILSON

Anti-Saloon League Chief Believes Members Were Unduly Influenced by Saloon Men.

Possibilities of sensational developments through new information furnished the subcommittee of the Senate, which is investigating the bribery charges, deepened a probe into the activities of the committee last night.

The work had been so planned that the committee would be able to commence the hearing of the report today.

The Anti-Saloon League, which is the chief enemy of the committee, yesterday, that he believed some members of the committee had received money to influence them in designating successful applicants for liquor licenses.

Believes Money Was Used.

Mr. Wilson's statement was in reply to questions framed at the request of the Senate.

"I have no personal knowledge or information of the kind having received money," declared the president of the Anti-Saloon League, that in opinion, that money has been received.

Mr. Wilson declared he based his belief upon a statement alleged to have been made by Mr. T. B. Raker, a member of the Senate, in June, 1914, before the Senate committee on the liquor license bill.

Following Mr. Wilson's charges, Sen. Smith asked to be permitted to take the stand. He swore that he personally had never received a dollar for the issue of liquor licenses.

Says Bride Advised Him.

Mr. Wilson declared that after T. B. Raker had advised him to confer with Senator Jones, of Washington, with a view to bringing about a Congressional investigation into the activities of Gen. Smith and Mr. Raker.

Mr. Wilson said that Mr. Raker had called on him, according to the two anti-saloon members, according to Mr. Wilson, Mr. Raker, later corroborated this part of Mr. Wilson's testimony.

Part of the conversation, according to Mr. Wilson, concerned the efforts of a friend of a Mr. Madden to get a license and money for the same.

"And," said Mr. Wilson, "the bride said, 'And Gen. Smith has said it and he can't say it back.'"

It was told in an answer, Robert L. Miller, that Mr. Wilson, that Gen. Smith was staying at the United States Hotel at Saratoga last summer, and that he frequented the race track in company with Mr. J. K. Kean and Mr. Sheehy, a lawyer appearing before the Senate committee on the liquor license bill.

"For four years I have visited the race courses of the country and enjoyed my time off from business in that way. It has cost me money, but I will go on paying for the enjoyment until I die. It is difficult to be on a company when you visit a race course with other persons who are attending the races."

"My wife was my companion in Saratoga and in other places. There were only two places to stay in Saratoga when you visited the races, the United States Hotel and the Grand Union Hotel. I am sorry for the trouble I am causing you." The identity of the young woman is unknown.

Herald's Fight on Dope Evil Praised by Randle Citizens

The following resolution was introduced by President C. A. Barker and unanimously passed by the Randle Highlands Citizens' Association at a meeting last night of the Randle Highlands Citizens' Association:

"Whereas, a serious menace to public health and morals has been disclosed in the District of Columbia in the existence of an illicit traffic in habit-forming drugs of serious proportions; and

"Whereas public-spirited organizations should offer assistance to those who are conducting a campaign against irresponsible practitioners of the medical profession, and who are engaged in a praiseworthy effort to protect the community from this menace; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the Randle Highlands Citizens' Association heartily commends The Washington Herald and the District authorities in their present fight to protect the community from this evil and to arouse public opinion against any who are responsible for its existence and continuance."

'COTTAGE DANCE' HIT BY EXPERTS

Child Welfare Investigators Find Peril to Youth in Unlicensed Halls.

'MOVIES' SLAY TOO MANY

Three Murders in Four Reels Too Much, Says Member of Commission.

Improvements in the interest of child welfare in the District will be urged early in the summer at the result of a study of local dance halls, theaters, movies, saloons, juke joints, water supplies, infant mortality and child occupational facilities now being conducted by experts.

Large Force Employed.

A large force of employees was engaged in the gathering statistics for the recreational survey. More than 20,000 persons were interviewed. Clauses of the entire city are being prepared, showing the density of child population in each square, and the location of theaters, saloons, school houses, playgrounds, recreation centers, churches, and other institutions.

"The Excise Board desires to have all the light it can on this terrible situation," he said. "It is a terrible arrangement, and I am speaking under oath, and I say that in all my life, I have never seen a worse situation."

"The commission has made an investigation of the dance halls, and while on the whole they are conducted with fair decency, many deplorable conditions were found. The most obnoxious and harmful form of recreation is the so-called cottage dance, held in places operating without license and hence not restricted by municipal regulation. To evade the law no fee of admission is charged, but it costs 25 or 50 cents to hang your hat on a peg, and no one can dance unless he hangs his hat up. Midnight dance halls are conducted in some cities. They are good things and it is possible the commission will consider recommending them for Washington."

Pictures Too Morbid.

"Many of the moving pictures shown here are of a demoralizing character. I do not say they are indecent, but they are too morbid. Four murders in three reels, and all in one evening, are a few too many for the child to digest properly. I do not blame the local picture theater men. They have to show the pictures available. The blame should fall on the heads of the producers."

A recommendation bound to come will be the establishment of additional playgrounds, recreation centers, and neighborhood centers in those localities where the needs are greatest, as shown graphically on the survey chart.

NEW PRESIDENT OF HAITI.

Gullienne Enters Port as Prince and Takes Over Government.

Cape Haytien, March 1.—Gen. Vilbrun Gullienne entered Port au Prince at the head of his army today. He was proclaimed provisional President of Haiti by the national assembly. A cabinet was at once formed and cable dispatches received here from the capital states that the provisional government has the confidence of the men of Port au Prince.

American gold was quoted at a lower rate than any time during the administration of President Daville Theodore.

A call was issued by the provisional President for the national assembly to meet and elect a President for the constitutional term.

Baltimore & Ohio All Steel Trains.
No change of cars via the shortest route to Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Chicago, Cincinnati, Louisville and St. Louis.

RURAL CREDITS ADVOCATES RULE

Republicans Unable to Check Them as Government Aid Plan Rider Is Adopted.

BLOW TO WILSON IS SEEN

Snarl in Agricultural Bill Regarded as Serious Menace to the Administration.

Action by the House at an early hour this morning will indicate clearly that legislation establishing a rural credit system will be sent to the President as a rider to the agricultural appropriation bill. Furthermore, it is certain that the rural credit plan will embody the principle of government aid. This principle is objectionable to President Wilson, and he already has threatened to veto the agricultural bill if it comes to him with a rural credit system of this character.

Choice Is Narrowed Down.

While neither Speaker Clarke nor Vice President Marshall have selected the Representatives from their respective houses, the list of names from which the commission will be drawn has been pretty well narrowed down, and an even more decided view of the situation in the House is being taken by the Democratic leaders, even with the support of the administration, were helpless to check them.

At 10 o'clock last night the House adopted an amendment offered by Representative Bulky, of Ohio, which insures the government aid plan. The adoption of the Bulky amendment indicated that the so-called Hollis rural credits plan, to which the amendment was added, will be adopted by the House.

For Land Bank System.

The Hollis plan, as modified by the Bulky amendment, provides for the organization of a system of land banks along the lines of the recently enacted Federal reserve banking system. These so-called land banks are authorized to sell farm loan bonds based upon farm mortgages, and the government is obligated to pay \$2,000,000 of these bonds each year.

The money for the purchase of these bonds is to be obtained through an issue of Panama Canal bonds, and the interest upon these canal bonds is to be increased from 3 to 3 1/2 per cent, so as to make them more readily marketable.

It is this government aid feature to which President Wilson is opposed. If the House passes it against his wishes, as seems certain, the President will try to have the project killed in conference.

With only two and one-half days of the present Congress remaining, it is realized that this rural credit snarl is a dangerous factor for the Democratic leaders to handle. The request of an appropriation for the agricultural experiment will be left until after the session.

On all sides last night the action in the House and in the Senate on rural credits was regarded as the severest rebuke the administration has yet received. In the House, particularly, the President's wishes have been absolutely disregarded.

The Senate reached an agreement shortly before midnight to take a recess at 1:30 until 11 a. m. It is the intention to have a continuous session of the Senate from that hour until noon Thursday.

KANSAS THIRSTS SAFE.

Jug and Hack Line Legal, Supreme Court Holds.

That a jug-and-hack line transporting liquor across a State boundary into "dry" territory is interstate commerce and cannot be interfered with by State judiciary, was held by the United States Supreme Court yesterday. The highest court reversed the Supreme Court of Kansas, which had held that M. Kirkmeyer, a citizen of Leavenworth, who had established a depot just across the river in Missouri, for supplying liquors to thirsty citizens of Leavenworth and a delivery wagon service plying between the depot and Leavenworth was not legitimate interstate commerce, but a pretext for violating the prohibition laws of Kansas.

When Congress adjourns take Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. train West. For tickets apply 1225 F St.—Adv.

CHOICE FOR TAX BOARD MEMBERS NARROWS DOWN

Four Names, Two from Each House, Mentioned as Strong Possibilities.

HARMONY IS INDICATED

Commission's Work Promises to Be Undisturbed by Factional Strife.

ABLE MEN FOR GRAVE TASK

Senators Martin and Works and Representatives Page and Davis Are Suggested.

By JOSEPH P. ANNIN.

The joint Congressional committee which will investigate the fiscal relationship between the District of Columbia and the Federal government will get under way under the most favorable conditions.

Indications yesterday were that the personnel would comprise members of such standing in the House and Senate that there would be no factional or opinion differences to iron out or puzzle the judicial attitude in which the very grave problem should be approached.

The Senate yesterday adopted without opposition the House substitute offered by Majority Leader Underwood to the Johnson rider. This action insures the retention for the present of the half-and-half plan of appropriating for the District, pending the report of the commission authorized by the Underwood amendment.

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Cossacks Cut Way Through Center of Hindenburg's Front

German Lines Split by Russian Wedge and Northern Campaign Now Is Divided Into Two Parts—Frantic Efforts of Teutons to Cover Broken Lines Culminate in Forty-eight Hours of Fierce, Close-Quarter Fighting in Which Czar's Troops Maintain Gains—Kaiser Pours Fresh Troops to Frontier and Terrific Encounters Go On. Germans' Southern Line Being Driven Back Steadily, Petrograd Reports.

BIG AUSTRIAN ARMY IN PERILOUS POSITION; MUSCOVITES MENACE QUARTERS AT STANISLAU

By FREDERICK RENNETT.

Petrograd, March 1.—It is now known that a Russian cavalry brigade, headed by Cossacks, has pierced the center of Marshal von Hindenburg's army at the village of Krasnoselz, on the River Orjisa, midway between Ostrolenka and Przasnysz.

Frantic efforts by the Germans to cover their broken lines have culminated in an amazing forty-eight hours of close-quarter fighting for the possession of Przasnysz.

The Russian cavalry is well up on the flank of the German twenty-mile front stretching westward beyond Przasnysz.

The Germans began pouring fresh troops forward from the frontier and attempted to maintain the battle simultaneously to the eastward against the cavalry (which now is supported by an infantry corps), and to the southward against the chief Russian strength which is advancing from the Narva.

Shoot Way Through Lines.

The operations throughout were of the fiercest character, and there was no possibility of maneuvering movements owing to the great numbers engaged on both sides.

The Russians steadily shot and charged their way through village after village, while Germans attempted to form again and start counter-attacks.

Their southern line, however, gradually has been sent backward by the assaults which it was called upon to sustain during three successive days of terrible fighting.

By breaking through the German line and capturing the foremost depot of the Germans, the Russians have divided the northern campaign into two parts.

Austrian Army Imperiled.

The Germans on the east have abandoned the initiative for a stubborn defense against the Russians who are moving westward from the Niemen. Great fighting seems now to be likely to develop across the line from Mlawa to Thorn.

With the Russians from Przasnysz at the southeast corner of the Russian war line the main Austrian army has been forced into a dangerous position. The Russians from the Strzy Valley have attacked from the west and rapidly defeated all the enemy troops between Dolina and Stanislaw.

Another Russian column which advanced energetically along the left bank of the Pruth has threatened the rear of the main Austrian quarters near Stanislaw. The Austrians are now trying to retrace their route through Kolomea towards Bukovina. Their communications are in danger and a decisive battle may be forced on them near the Roumanian frontier.

Further announcements by the admirals say that one marine was killed and three wounded on board the battle cruiser Vengeance during Friday's bombardment.

A dispatch from Athens says that Turkish destroyers are reported to have attacked the Anglo-French mine sweepers in the Dardanelles last night, sinking two of them.

CLASSICAL SHOE SHINES.

Music Hall Charms to Draw Customers, as Well.

Musical bootblack "parties," where, while you sit on the high seat watching a son of Hellas besmear your shoes with blacking, you may listen to the classic strains of "Rigoletto" or "Siegfried," played on a "concertina," promises to become a Washington feature.

The alibi of the bootblack, however, is one of the most popular of the day's amusements.

Dutch Officers Ordered to Colors.
The Hague, March 1.—All Dutch officers on furlough were ordered today to rejoin their regiments. This action was taken after a conference between the foreign minister and Queen Wilhelmina.

Chesapeake & Ohio Ry. Offers Very Low Rates to Panama-Pacific Exposition, California many variable routes.
For full information apply to Geo. M. Bond, D. P. A., Washington, D. C.—Adv.

NURSE SAYS SHE WAS ROBBED OF \$77,500

Suspects Two Men Who Followed Her from England—Letter of Credit and Draft Vanish.

Denver, March 1.—June Swenson, twenty-seven, a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital, reported to the police today she had been robbed of a letter of credit on the Bank of England for \$77,000 and a draft of \$500 on the same institution.

The girl suspects two men she claims followed her from England after receiving an inheritance through the death of her father.

The authorities called the London bank to refuse payment if the order is presented.

LOSP SUES YOUNG WIFE.

enarian Millionaire Charges Bride, 23, Deserted Him.
Pittsburgh, March 1.—Edward B. Lothrop, the eighty-year-old millionaire, is suing his twenty-three-year-old daughter, Margaret, for desertion. The girl, who was married to a young man, deserted him and is now living with a man named "John Doe." The girl's father is a millionaire and the girl is a socialite.